

# Sugar and Plantation News

## ALL SIGNS POINT TO HIGHER PRICES

Willett & Gray Report Heavy Buying of Raws By Refiners To Meet Demand

British Consumption per Capita Higher Than Before the War

Sales of raw sugar at New York during the week ending January 20 were phenomenal, over 600,000 bags, and Porto Rico having changed hands and one 3,000 ton lot of 88 degree Philippine B. factors were the principle buyers.

Willett & Gray state, in part, in their weekly report, that stocks in the United States and Cuba together were 191,952 tons, against 170,504 tons last week and 244,422 tons last year, a decrease of 52,470 tons from last year.

Special and somewhat abnormal conditions contributed to make a decidedly strong and improving tendency to the market for raw sugar during the week under review. At the close last week Cuba Centrifugals, 96° test, were at 4.55c per lb. duty paid, and Porto Rico, free-duty, at 4.32c per lb. 96° test.

Immediately thereafter a decided interest was shown by refiners, who had been for some time indifferent to the market, but now became eager buyers, especially for sugar promptly available for use.

### Ship Shortage

The special and abnormal conditions relating to tonnage to the United States and obligations for early contracting by Cuban estates for European shipments, reduced the offerings of such prompt shipments as refiners required to a minimum amount, and the advance since had become practicable.

The buying also extended to the future months' shipments, and quite a large business to refiners has resulted at advancing rates, the sales being as follows: Monday, prompt at 4.61c, with early February at 4.58c; Tuesday, prompt and early February 4.61c, and March at 4.58c; Wednesday, prompt and February 4.77c, followed by prompt at 4.85c.

### Porto Rico Almost Paz

Porto Rico, said on Saturday at 4.32c per lb. for date January early February shipment, and today at 4.64c for same positions. The offerings of these sugars are light, as there appears to be some labor troubles occurring in Porto Rico.

Refiners have had and are having such a good demand, both domestic and foreign, for their product, and their unsold supplies are at a low minimum rarely touched, and the important question still remains open as to how long the present congestion is to hold.

### Louisiana Sells To Trust

Present indications of foreign and domestic demand for Cuba sugar are doing away with recent expectations of the usual annual temporary decline at the low point of the early months of former years.

Business with Europe in Cuba on a f.o.b. basis continued quietly but in good volume, the last sales being 3.15c, f.o.b. Cuba.

Louisiana planters participated in the business to the extent of selling the American some 125,000 bags refining grades, at 4.5c per lb., basis 96° for delivery at New Orleans up to February 15.

### The Cuban Outlook

The Cuban crop is making excellent progress, as is shown by the receipts for the week ending January 15, of 94,523 tons, against 48,000 and 98,000 tons for the corresponding weeks of the two previous years. The strong position of the holders of sugar is shown by the small exports of last week, and this at a time when the Atlantic ports refiners are rather short of stock, as is usual at the beginning of the year, and which temporary condition is causing the strong market prevailing.

Total exports of the week were 70,299 tons, of which amount 27,961 tons were for Europe and the balance 42,338 tons, destined for the United States Atlantic ports. Stocks are increased to 102,165 tons in the island on January 17, and on that date 155 centrals were grinding, against 135 and 154 on corresponding dates of 1915 and 1914.

Mr. H. A. Himely writes, in part, under date of Havana, January 10: "A scarcity of labor is reported from Guanajuato and Mazatlan, but we have heard of no unusual complaints in that respect from other quarters. The arrival in Havana of laborers from Spain continues large."

Recent charters have been made for February shipment from Cuba to New York at forty-three to forty-five cents per 100 pounds.

Refined sugar is in short supply in the market, in connection with the increased calls upon refiners to meet the demands of both foreign and home consumers, has turned the refined market upwards to the extent of ten cents per one hundred pounds. All refiners now quote 5.55c, less two per cent, for fine granulated for domestic consumption.

Some delay in shipments is in evidence. Orders placed today with the American will probably be shipped Saturday. Howell is behind, but expect to be in better shape by the first of the week. Arbutkne is a little behind, some

By the use of the Meinecke knife hub, the invention of Joseph Meinecke, chief engineer of the Maui Agricultural Co.'s mill at Paila, local plantations are able to quadruple the number of revolving knives formerly used on a single shaft to prepare cane entering the crusher rolls.

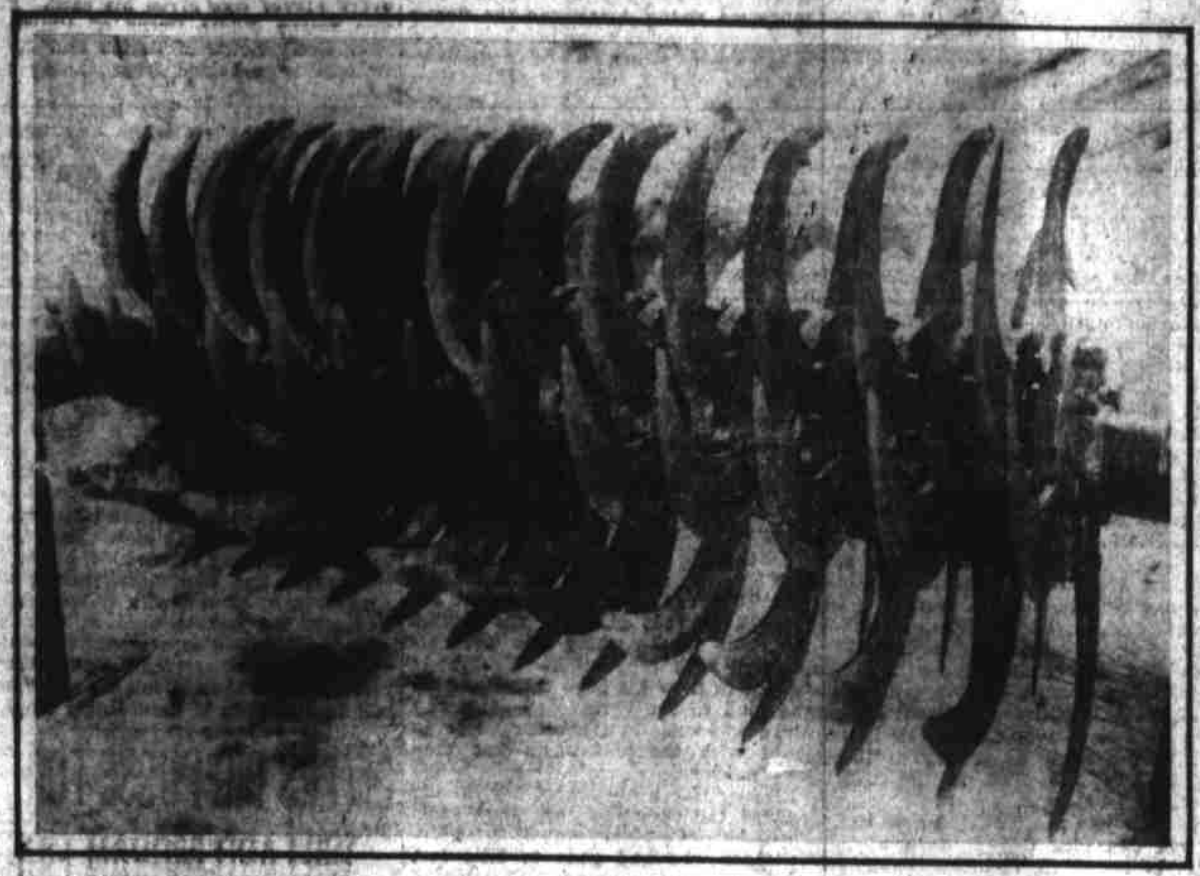
The illustration above shows a set of 104 knives attached to Meinecke hubs built by the local Iron Works for Wailuku Agricultural Company. The knives are spaced three-quarters of an inch apart and are placed with their tips one inch from the top of the cane carrier slats so that the cane is thoroughly chopped up, thus assuring a better "chicknet" feed.

While these knives are not devised to serve as a substitute for the Searby shredder, except in the smaller mills of the islands, they greatly increase the capacity of the milling plants, level out the feed of the cane, and render the extraction of sucrose a much easier matter than formerly.

The lower illustration shows the condition of the cane as it enters the crusher at Paila—a mass of cane chips instead of the more familiar sticks of cane.

Previous to the use of this invention twenty-six knives to a revolving knife shaft was considered the limit of knives per unit, and the quadrupling of this number assures cane preparation which will materially lighten the load on the mill rollers.

At Paila a 100 h.p. engine drives the knives, at a speed of 500 revolutions per minute. One advantage of the Meinecke invention is that there is no vibration. The balance is perfect. Former types had the knives arranged in a spiral, and perfect balance was never secured. The claim made for this invention is that by its use extraction can be increased one-half to one per cent, with the same power. This is a big advantage for small mills where the installation would not warrant investment in a Searby shredder.



grades being delayed more than others. Warner accepts orders for shipment in turn, subject to delay. Federal prompt on all grades except cubes.

Export prices are 4.75c to 4.95c per pound, net cash, in bond, f.o.b. New York. For export the business increases as a total under separate modern sales to various countries.

A large demand has occurred in domestic best refined and prices are now higher. Quotations are 5.55c, in Chicago-Buffalo territory, and 5.75c basis east of Pittsburgh.

### British Trade Reviewed

Wm. Connal & Co.'s annual review of the United Kingdom sugar trade for 1915 states that practically the entire supply has been cane.

It was no easy matter to time the arrival of cane cargoes in London, Liverpool and Glasgow, so that refiners might not want raw material. On several occasions, it is true, stocks were well high exhausted, but supplies never failed to arrive in time to keep refiners in full work.

Private enterprise could scarcely have accomplished this work, more especially during the later months, when tonnage has risen at such an abnormally high figure, and has been almost impossible to obtain by ordinary traders. This difficulty could only be overcome by government, which possessed the power to commandeer vessels as occasion required.

### Where It Came From

The replacing of beetroot by cane sugar involved the necessity of drawing on many cane producing countries, each contributing its quota. From Mauritius, for example, which, in 1913, only supplied the week with 29,000 tons of refining quality, 99,000 tons were obtained in 1915 but the principal source of additional supply have been from the islands of Cuba and Java. In 1913 the entire crop of Java was absorbed by the east, but during the present year about 300,000 tons have been imported to the United Kingdom, while from Cuba about 300,000 tons have been obtained, or about 100,000 tons more than in 1914.

Notwithstanding the increased duty, and the fact that the price of sugar to consumers is now more than double what it was before the war, consumption has, so far, shown little apparent diminution. The reason is probably to be found in the present unexampled prosperity of the working classes, who have profited largely from the extensive manufacture of munitions and war material.

The confectionery trade, which it was feared might have been seriously crippled by the war, is still in a thriving state, because the working man's family, in the temporary enjoyment of an abnormally increased income, is spending freely upon luxuries.

At the close of 1915 stocks of both raw and refined sugar are very light in comparison with those of a year ago.

### Draining Rice Fields

Recent investigations in India have demonstrated that rice, also and all other crops grown submerged produce increased yields if the fields are sub-drained. The most satisfactory drains, because so cheap as to be within reach of the poorest land owners, are ditches dug two and a half or three feet deep and filled half full of loose rock. A layer of small stones is strewn over the top and the mud of the rice field filled in. These rock drains cost about \$75 per acre and if laid at the proper grade will run for ten years or more without choking. The difficulty is to get grade enough. This treatment of the land has been extremely beneficial in salt lands bordering the sea or on fields where the irrigation waters are brackish or alkali.

### Hind-Renton Steel Rollers

"There are seven steel rollers in use in Hawaiian mills. Two of these are at Kwa, two at Hahi, Kohala, one at Union mill, one at Wailuku, and one at Hanalei Sugar Plantation. There are also four steel mill rollers provided with the Hind-Renton system of grooving, at the Maui Sugar Plantation Company's mill in Cuba." Speaking of the general adaptability of this type of machinery R. R. Hind stated yesterday that these eleven rollers have been in use over a year and all have worked splendidly. "There has been practically no reduction in diameter in any of these rollers."

Mr. Hind said he has been found to be the best material for roller bars, using the steel rollers. Steel was used at first, but where two steel faces worked against each other one cuts the other. Hence one unit in the couple must be softer than the other to preserve the life of both.

### Sugar Freight Forty Dollars

LONDON MAIL, January 6, 1916.—The Java market is greatly disorganized by the heavy fall in the Dutch and Batavia exchanges, which are now something like 25 per cent below the normal or about 25 3d per cwt. on the value of sugars round about 15s. Hence business is practically at a standstill, especially as freights to Europe continue to advance, the rate to France being now probably about 100s per ton. The sterling quotations today for No. 17 Javas are about 17s 6d f.o.b. for July August shipment and for Whites about 15s per cwt. and so.

### Sugar and Booze

A Washington correspondent suggests that the prospective restoration of the full duty on raw sugars is simply one of a number of fiscal changes that will be made preparatory to national prohibition. Liquor taxes pay a quarter of the cost of government, and the anti-alcohol ground is rapidly taking other sources of revenue must be developed. A point of interest to the planters is the claim that sugar consumption increases enormously as that of alcohol lessens.

### LOUISIANA LOSES SUIT AGAINST TRUST

NEW YORK, January 20.—The United States district court at New Orleans has held unconstitutional the recent statute of the State of Louisiana delaying the business of sugar refiners to be a public utility, and requiring the American Sugar Refining Company to pay in Louisiana as high a price for sugar as it pays at any other point in the United States, the law not applying to other refiners, planters and buyers of sugar.

The American Sugar Refining Company brought its motion for injunction against Louisiana in the federal courts. The case was heard by Circuit Judge Richard W. Walker of Alabama, District Judge Rufus E. Foster of Louisiana and District Judge William T. Newman of Georgia and their decision was unanimous.

### Concerning Heat

It is a disgrace to have a fire-room or a boiler house so hot that men cannot work there in comfort. Better application of power is being made every day, as new inventions are applied at some point in the train to simplify and economize in sugar manufacture, yet how many chief engineers know each day what their heat losses amount to? Wasted heat is a great power. In this particular, small mills are not always the worst offenders.

### Nitrate Freight

Nitrate planters from Chile to New York are reported contracted far ahead as July to August, 1917, loading at rates up to \$26 and \$27 per ton. The Hawaiian planters are very fortunate in having contracted deliveries of nitrate fertilizers sufficient for a year or two ahead.

### Japanese Sugar Journal

The Industrial World, No. 1, Vol. 1, published at Tokyo, Japan, and dated December 1, 1915, is another sugar journal. It is printed in English and contains a great deal of material in Japanese and is devoted mainly to sugar affairs relating to Formosa.

## KAUAI HAS HAD FLOODS — IT WAS HER TURN

The storm that has been hanging around the islands the last six weeks swung north the latter part of last week and gave Kauai a tremendous drenching. At Makawili and McBryde some of the houses were washed out but Alexander, a Baldwin report that the damage is nothing like what it was on Maui. Kekaha had to stop grinding because the fields were too soft and muddy and grinding was interfered with at other plantations for similar reasons. The rain did the cane fields more good than harm and, needless to say, Kauai's ricefields and ditches are full.

The weather on Maui and Oahu has been about the same, moderate and showery. At Lahaina rough seas have prevented sugar shipments. Windward Hawaii is dry towards Hilo with only half enough home water. Thunder storms with heavy rains are reported from Hamakua. At Paila the weather has moderated and grinding is in progress to full capacity. Kekaha has nothing to complain of and Kona is wetter than usual.

As has been previously noted, the best of the harvesting season extends about ten weeks from today and if the Kona storm will go back down into the tropics and stay there the planters will be well satisfied.

### The Holding Game

"Holding" is to be the rule in Cuba this year, according to letter advice from Havana. The planters will hold on to their sugars for higher prices, with the refiners holding off buying or selling until prices are lower. This and delayed operation of factories due to the extensive installation of new machinery are said to be the real reasons why Hilo Cuban sugar is on the way to market.

### Not Much Ahead of Qurs

Cayman, the largest sugar mill in the world, estimates its 1916 crop at about 115,000 short tons. A new production record is promised this season.



## PLANTATIONS IMPROVE SANITARY CONDITIONS

Doctors Pratt and Trotter Return From Hawaii Inspection

Dr. J. S. B. Pratt, president of the territorial board of health, and Dr. Frederick E. Trotter, chief of the local United States quarantine service, returned in the Great Northern yesterday from Hilo, accompanied by Don S. Bowman, chief sanitary officer of the Big Island.

The Honolulu officials visited and inspected the plantation camps in Hamakua, chiefly those at Paauhau and Kihuna, where sanitary conditions have not been the best the past few months. The situation has improved in Hamakua since the middle of December, when the danger of infection seemed to have been finally overcome, said Doctor Pratt. "The plantation stables, which are near the hogpens, camps, will be moved shortly to isolated locations. In fact, the old structures will be torn down and new stables put in place, and the stables at Kihuna, Mr. Bowman and the officials of the board of health have bettered conditions there remarkably well and I don't expect to hear of any more trouble over there."

The two Honolulu officials and physicians were given a dinner at the Hilo Hotel Monday night by the Hilo Shipper's Board Committee, when the members of the committee phoned their unqualified support in behalf of all health improvements, not only in Hamakua but elsewhere in the island. The committee has contributed much time, study, pains and money in the cause of perfect sanitation in Hilo and elsewhere and is to be highly commended for all that the members have done in these matters, says the president of the board of health.

### Cuban Freights Soaring

Mail advices received by C. Brewer & Company yesterday from New York were that freight rates from South Cuba ports have gone up 10 cents and sugar costs per hundred pounds to \$11 to \$13.50 per long ton. This jump in sugar freights is one of the reasons given for higher prices. Cargo carriers are hard to get even at this still remuneration for a short haul.

### First Shredder On Hawaii

Hawai Plantations has installed a 42x12 inch Searby shredder. It is directly connected to a 125 h.p. Kerr steam engine. Hilo is one of the most progressive of the smaller plantations, and great gains are expected in extraction during the coming season.

### United Fruit Company

At a meeting of the stockholders held on January 14, 1916, the amendment of the certificate of incorporation was submitted to the stockholders and authorized capital stock of the company from \$45,000,000 to \$75,000,000 and the said amendment has been made effective.

### Wailuku Again Grinding

The railroad bridge at Wailuku which was washed out in the last flood was repaired Monday night and Wailuku Sugar Company is grinding again. Plumes have been repaired, fields are being cleaned, and work is proceeding.

## TERRIBLE SKIN HUMOR 25 YEARS

Business Man Suffered Agony — Head, Neck and Shoulders Covered — Became An Object of Dread — Consulted Most Able Doctors and Hospital but Got No Relief.

**SURPRISINGLY QUICK CURE BY CUTICURA**

"Cuticure did wonders for me. For twenty-five years I suffered from a terrible skin humor, covering my head, neck and shoulders, and even to my arms. I became an object of dread. At last I was cured by Cuticure. I am now well and happy. I am a business man and I am now able to do my work."

**CURED BOILS With Cuticure when Everything Else had Failed.**

"I am very grateful for Cuticure as my daughter has been suffering for eleven months with a great boil on her body. We tried everything which she could mention but nothing was any good. The boil made her very weak and ill and she had to leave her place. After using one bottle of Cuticure I saw a box of Cuticure Ointment, two vials of Cuticure Lotion and three bottles of Cuticure Resolvent. I used the Cuticure Lotion and the Resolvent and the boil was cured. I am now well and happy. I am a business man and I am now able to do my work."

**Another Oxnard Refinery**

Willett & Gray in their weekly report dated January 20 announce that the "Savannah Sugar Refining Corporation" has been incorporated in the State of New York, with \$1,500,000 seven per cent cumulative preferred and 20,000 shares of common stock of no par value. Mr. H. A. Oxnard will be the President. Messrs. Wm. Intire & Co., New York, are the financial agents of the company.

The plans for the refinery, which is to be located at or near Savannah, were given to the engineers Messrs. Westinghouse, Church, Kerr & Co. Some portion of the cane sugar factory at Adeline, Louisiana, is to be used, with additions of new and modern machinery. The refinery is expected to operate late in 1916.

**Pepesee Is Harvesting**

Pepesee Sugar Company started grinding the 1916 crop yesterday. The 1915 crop was just under twelve thousand tons.

**DON'T COUGH.**

It is a shame to allow a cough to hang on and get you very ill. When Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure you. You don't know where a persistent cough will lead you. You can't afford to allow your throat and lungs to become diseased when it is such a simple thing to step into a chemist's shop and get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For sale by all druggists. Russell, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for Hawaii.

## OLAA TAKES JUMP IN BIG MOVEMENT

Shares Leap From 11 3-8 To 13 Yesterday and Trading Is Very Active

Olan shares took a jump to 13 yesterday afternoon from 11 3/8 and several hundred shares changed hands at that price. The splendid reports from the property, coupled with the reassuring information from Washington and the steady price of sugar, are making this stock a popular speculation and predictions were confidently made in the street yesterday, that before the end of the present month the stock would reach nearly par.

January was a good month on the stock exchange, the volume of business being as large as the average of the best years, McBryde and Olan being the most sought after.

Of the former, 14,29, and the latter, 28,390 shares changed hands during the month at prices ranging from McBryde from 8 1/2 to 9 1/2, and Olan from 9 1/2 to 11 1/2. Wailuku stock changed hands at from 27 to 29 1/2, and 4200 shares were sold. Olan Sugar transferred 4202 shares at prices ranging from 28 1/2 to 31 1/2 and Pioneer shares were sold at from 35 to 36 1/2. Olan shares ranged in price from 26 1/2 to 28 1/2, but only 2.51 shares were transferred.

During the month there were no transfers in the following stocks reported on the board: U. Brewer & Co. (Hamakua Plantation), Kekaha, Paauhau, Pepee, or Wailuku. These shares are all held closely and seldom if ever are sold on change.

There were no sales of Hilo Railroad stock of the preferred series although somebody got 250 shares of the common at forty cents during the month. No sales were noted of the Rapid Transit shares.

In bond transactions especially good prices were received for the few pieces sold. Honolulu Gas 5s sold for 163; Rapid Transit bonds bearing six per cent brought 105; Mutual Telephone 2s brought 100 and Oahu Sugar 6s brought 108 1/2. These latter bonds are redeemable at maturity at 103.

Dividends paid during January by the various sugar stocks and miscellaneous securities listed on the Honolulu Stock Exchange reached the total of \$812,375. This is greater by \$107,240, than payments made during January, 1915. The figures are compiled from change sheets, the following payments having been made:

Halea, \$15,000; Paila, \$22,500; Kekaha, \$15,000; Pioneer, \$60,000; Kona, \$7500; Tanjong Okk Rubber Company, \$2000; Pahang, \$300; Onoua, \$50,000; Hawaiian Agricultural Company, \$30,000; Alexander & Baldwin, \$50,000; Ewa, \$50,000; C. Brewer & Company, \$45,000; Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company, \$10,000; Kahala, \$5000; Hawaiian Pineapple Company, \$8750; Honolulu Gas Company, \$2000; Hawaiian Commercial Company, \$100,000; Honolulu, \$11,250; Hutchinson, \$50,000; Paauhau, \$30,000; Wailuku, \$30,000; Pepee, \$15,000; Wailuku, \$45,000; Oahu Railway & Land Company, \$25,000; Hawaiian Sugar Company, \$45,000 and Oahu Sugar Company, \$50,000. Total, \$703,375.

### Belated Statistics

The department of commerce, bureau of the census, Washington, D. C., has issued a preliminary statement of the general results of the census of manufactures for the sugar refining industry for the year 1914, and from which we print the following summary of statistics for year 1914:

Number of establishments, 18.  
Raw sugar purchased: quantity (pounds), 7,120,557,300; cost, \$2,370,066,355.

Refined sugar manufactured: quantity (pounds), 6,666,268,045; value, \$287,485,974.

Molasses and syrup manufactured: quantity (gallons), 35,802,963; value, \$3,284,378.

Subsidiary products: value, \$618,463. It took on an average by the 15 refineries 106.82 lbs. raws to make 100 lbs. refined, and inversely 93.61 lbs. of refined were obtained from 100 lbs. of raws.

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